

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Steven S. Homer, et al. Examiner: Anthony Q. Edwards
Serial No.: 10/661,717 Group Art Unit: 2835
Filed: September 12, 2003 Docket No.: 200312716-1
Title: Computer with Adjustable Display

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Appeal Brief is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 5, 2006 and Notice of Appeal filed July 3, 2006.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's deposit account no. 08-2025.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party-in-interest is the assignee, Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P., a Texas Limited Partnership having its principal place of business in Houston, Texas.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no known related appeals or interferences known to appellant, the appellant's legal representative, or assignee that will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Appeal Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 4, 6 – 8, 10 – 20, and 22 – 27 are finally rejected. The rejection of these claims is appealed.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments were made after receipt of the Final Office Action dated 04/05/2006. All amendments have been entered.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The following provides a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the claims involved in the appeal, referring to the specification by page and line number and to the drawings by reference characters, as required by 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(v). Each element of the claims is identified by a corresponding reference to the specification and drawings where applicable. Note that the citation to passages in the specification and drawings for each claim element does not imply that the limitations from the specification and drawings should be read into the corresponding claim element or that these are the sole sources in the specification supporting the claim features.

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 1 comprises:

A computing system (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0021]), comprising:

a docking station having a base, a carrier separate from the base, and a nonlinear rigid mounting arm mechanically connecting the base to the carrier (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0021 – 0023]), wherein the mounting arm has a first end that pivotally connects to the base and a second end that pivotally connects to the carrier (FIG. 3: [0032]);

an electronic display removably connectable to the carrier (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0024 – 0025]); and

a keyboard in communication with the display, wherein the mounting arm has a curved portion that abuts and supports the display in a horizontal position and a straight portion that abuts and supports the display in a vertical position (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0026]; FIG. 3: [0037 – 0038]; FIGS. 4 and 5: [0041 – 0042]).

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 3 comprises:

The computing system of claim 1 wherein the mounting arm has an S shape in side view ([0028]).

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 8 comprises:

A portable computer (FIGS. 8 – 11: [0043]), comprising:

a base having a central processing unit and memory (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0023]);
a display having a screen, wherein the display is movable between a horizontal position with respect to the base and a vertical position with respect to the base (FIGS. 3 – 5 and 8 – 11: [0034 – 0035], [0041 – 0042], and [0044]); and

an elongated mounting arm mechanically and electrically coupling the display to the base (FIG. 3: [0027 – 0031]), wherein the mounting arm has a curved portion that abuts the display to horizontally supports the display and a straight portion that abuts the display to vertically supports the display above a support surface (FIGS. 3 – 5: [0034 – 0042]).

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 11 comprises:

The portable computer of claim 8 wherein the base further comprises a stop mechanism to limit movement of the mounting arm about the base while the display is in the vertical position ([0035]).

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 13 comprises:

A method, comprising:

providing a computer base housing electronic components (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0023]);

providing a computer display housing electronic components (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0024]);

mechanically attaching the base to the display with a curved mounting arm (FIG. 3: [0022] and [0027 – 0040]); and

adjusting the display to a vertical position such that the display abuts a straight portion of the curved mounting arm and a center of gravity of the display is between a first pivot point at the base and a second pivot point at the display (FIG. 3: [0035 – 0038]).

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 15 comprises:

The method of claim 14 further comprising:

adjusting the display to a horizontal position so the display rests on a support surface; and

forming triangular contact locations with the display and support surface (FIGS. 4 and 5: [0041 – 0042]).

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 18 comprises:

A computing system (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0021]), comprising:

a docking station comprising a base supportable on a support surface and housing electronic components, a carrier, and means for connecting the base to the carrier (FIGS. 1 – 3: [0021 – 0022] and [0032]);

a display housing electronic components and mechanically connected to the carrier and electrically coupled to the base through the means for connecting (FIGS. 1 and 2: [0024 – 0025]); and

wherein the display is supportable off the support surface and above the base such that the display abuts against a straight portion of the means for connecting and a center of gravity of the display is between two different and parallel axes that pass through two different rotational locations and that are normal to a support surface supporting the base (FIG. 3: [0035 – 0038]).

An embodiment of the invention such as embodied in claim 23 comprises:

The method of claim 13 further comprising adjusting the display to a horizontal position such that the display is supported on the support surface and the curved mounting arm but not the computer base (FIGS. 4 and 5: [0041 – 0042]).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

I. Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 10, 11, 13-20, and 22-27 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC U.S. § 103(a) as obvious over Publication No. 2003/0021083 (hereafter Landry).

II. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landry.

III. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landry in view of USPN 6,219,681 (Hawkins).

VII. ARGUMENT

The rejection of claims 1 – 4, 6 – 8, 10 – 20, and 22 – 27 is improper, and Applicants respectfully requests withdraw of this rejection.

The claims do not stand or fall together. Instead, Applicants present separate arguments for various independent and dependent claims. Each of these arguments is separately argued below and presented with separate headings and sub-heading as required by 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(vii).

Overview of Law on §102 and §103

A proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that a single prior art reference disclose each element of the claim. See MPEP § 2131, also, *W.L. Gore & Assoc., Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Applicants will show that the Landry does not teach each element in the claims.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art cited must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143. Without conceding whether the first and second criteria have been met, Applicants discuss the third criterion to demonstrate that a *prima facie* case of obviousness does not exist.

I. Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 102(e) and § 103(a)

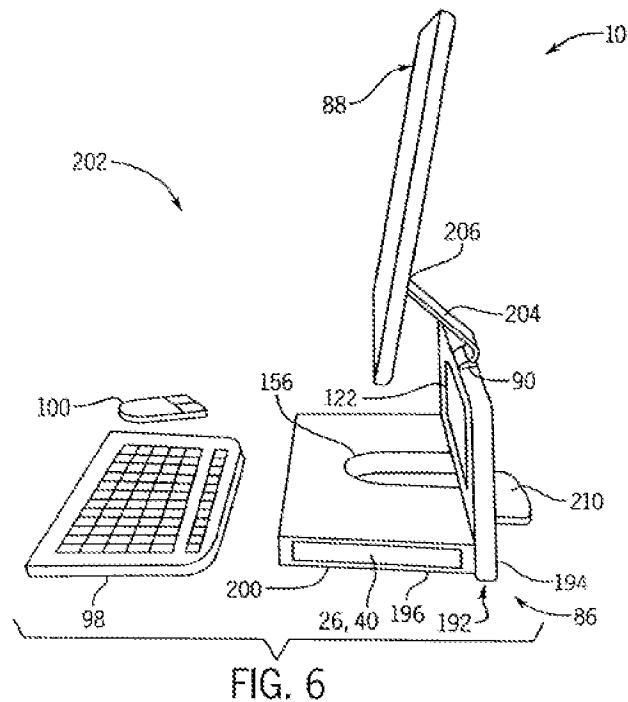
Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 10, 11, 13-20, and 22-27 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC U.S. § 103(a) as obvious over Publication No. 2003/0021083 (hereafter Landry). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1

Independent claim 1 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Landry. Some examples are provided below.

Example 1

Claim 1 recites a computing system that comprises a docking station having a base, a carrier, and a mounting arm. The mounting arm mechanically connects the base to the carrier, and a display connects to the carrier. The mounting arm has “a straight portion that abuts and supports the display in a vertical position.” The Office Action cites FIG. 6 of Landry for teaching these recitations. Applicants respectfully disagree and reproduce FIG. 6 of Landry below for convenience:



Landry does not teach or suggest a mounting arm that has a straight portion that both abuts and supports a display while the display is in a vertical position. FIG. 6 of Landry shows a member 204 that connects between a base 194 and a display 88. The member 204 (allegedly the claimed “mounting arm”) does include a straight portion that extends outwardly from the display 88. The straight portion of member 204, however, does not abut and support the display 88 while the display 88 is in the vertical position.

As expressly shown in FIG. 6, the display 88 is in a vertical position; yet the straight portion of the member 204 neither abuts nor supports the display.

The Office Action argues that the display 88 and member 204 in FIG. 6 of Landry could be moved to the right to “allow for an underside of the straight portion of the arm to abut and support the display in the vertical position” (see FOA at p. 3). For several reasons, Applicants respectfully disagree. First, FIG. 6 of Landry already shows the display in the vertical position, and the straight portion of member 204 neither abuts nor supports the display. In other words, FIG. 6 of Landry conflicts with the argument of the Examiner. Second, Landry never teaches or even suggests that the straight portion of member 204 can both “abut and support” the display. Instead, Landry expressly teaches that the hinges 90 and 206 support the display in the vertical position:

As illustrated, the member 204 is rotatably coupled to the base section 194 via the hinge 90 and is rotatably coupled to the display 88 via a hinge 206 opposite the hinge 90. Accordingly, the operational configuration 202 comprises a three-hinge structure, which facilitates a more flexible orientation of the display 88 and the base sections 194 and 196. Thus, the display 88 can be rotated about the hinges 206 and 90 to a desired height and viewing angle for the display screen 92. (Landry at [0033]).

Thus, Landry expressly teaches that hinges (not the straight portion of member 204) support the display 88 in a vertical position.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over Landry.

Example 2

Claim 1 recites that the mounting arm has “a curved portion that abuts and supports the display in a horizontal position.” The Office Action cites FIG. 7 of Landry for teaching these recitations. Applicants respectfully disagree and reproduce FIG. 7 of Landry below for convenience:

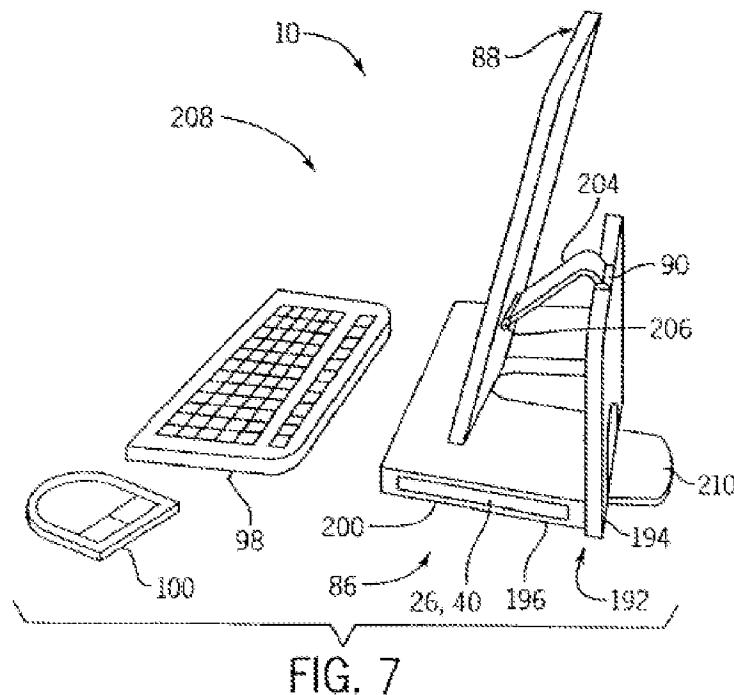


FIG. 7

Landry does not teach or suggest a mounting arm that has a curved portion that both abuts and supports a display while the display is in a horizontal position. FIG. 7 of Landry shows a member 204 that connects between a base 194 and a display 88. The member 204 (allegedly the claimed “mounting arm”) does include a curved portion at hinge 90. This curved portion of member 204, however, does not abut and support the display 88 while the display 88 is in the horizontal position.

The Office Action argues that the display 88 in FIG. 7 of Landry could be moved to the right to “allow for both a top surface of the arm, as well as the curved portion of the arm to abut and support the display” (see FOA at p. 2). For several reasons, Applicants respectfully disagree. First, Landry never teaches that hinges 90 and 206 are configured so the display 88 is rotatable to a horizontal position. Second, even assuming *arguendo* that Landry’s display can rotate to a horizontal position, the recitations of the claim are not taught or suggested. Looking to FIG. 7, if the display 88 is rotated to the right, then at best the display will abut the straight portion of member 204. The display 88, however, would not abut the curved portion as this portion is at the hinge 90. Third, Landry never teaches or even suggests that the curved portion of member 204 can both

“abut and support” the display in a horizontal position. Instead, Landry expressly teaches that the hinges 90 and 206 support the display:

As illustrated, the member 204 is rotatably coupled to the base section 194 via the hinge 90 and is rotatably coupled to the display 88 via a hinge 206 opposite the hinge 90. Accordingly, the operational configuration 202 comprises a three-hinge structure, which facilitates a more flexible orientation of the display 88 and the base sections 194 and 196. Thus, the display 88 can be rotated about the hinges 206 and 90 to a desired height and viewing angle for the display screen 92. (Landry at [0033]).

Thus, Landry expressly teaches that hinges (not the curved portion of member 204) support the display 88.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over Landry.

Claim 8

Independent claim 8 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Landry. Some examples are provided below.

Example 1

Claim 8 recites a portable computer that comprises a base, a display, and a mounting arm that couples the display to the base. The mounting arm has “a straight portion that abuts the display to vertically support the display above a support surface.” Landry does not teach or suggest a mounting arm that abuts the display to vertically support the display above a support surface. The Office Action cites FIG. 6 of Landry for teaching these recitations. Applicants respectfully disagree and reproduce FIG. 6 of Landry below for convenience:

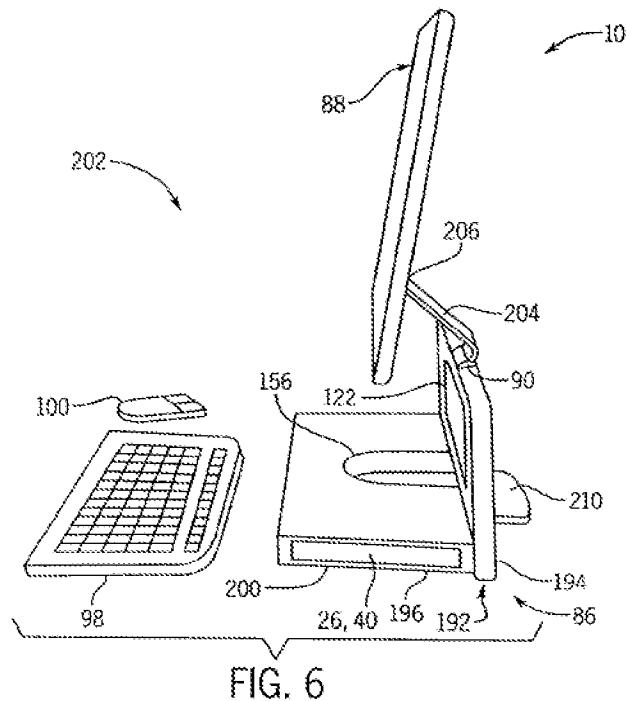


FIG. 6 of Landry shows a member 204 that connects between a base 194 and a display 88. The member 204 (allegedly the claimed “mounting arm”) does include a straight portion that extends outwardly from the display 88. The straight portion of member 204, however, does not abut the display 88 to vertically support the display above the support surface. As expressly shown in FIG. 6, the display 88 is in a vertical position; yet the straight portion of the member 204 neither abuts nor supports the display while the display is above the support surface.

The Office Action argues that the display 88 and member 204 in FIG. 6 of Landry could be moved to the right to “allow for an underside of the straight portion of the arm to abut and support the display in the vertical position” (see FOA at p. 4). For several reasons, Applicants respectfully disagree. First, FIG. 6 of Landry already shows the display in the vertical position, and the straight portion of member 204 neither abuts nor supports the display. In other words, FIG. 6 of Landry conflicts with the argument of the Examiner. Second, Landry never teaches or even suggests that the straight portion of member 204 can “abut the display to vertically support the display above a support

surface.” Instead, Landry expressly teaches that the hinges 90 and 206 support the display in the vertical position:

As illustrated, the member 204 is rotatably coupled to the base section 194 via the hinge 90 and is rotatably coupled to the display 88 via a hinge 206 opposite the hinge 90. Accordingly, the operational configuration 202 comprises a three-hinge structure, which facilitates a more flexible orientation of the display 88 and the base sections 194 and 196. Thus, the display 88 can be rotated about the hinges 206 and 90 to a desired height and viewing angle for the display screen 92. (Landry at [0033]).

Thus, Landry expressly teaches that hinges (not the straight portion of member 204) vertically support the display 88 above the support surface.

For at least these reasons, claim 8 and its dependent claims are allowable over Landry.

Example 2

Claim 8 recites that the mounting arm has “a curved portion that abuts the display to horizontally support the display.” Landry does not teach or suggest a mounting arm having a curved portion that abuts the display to horizontally support the display. The Office Action cites FIG. 7 of Landry for teaching these recitations. Applicants respectfully disagree and reproduce FIG. 7 of Landry below for convenience:

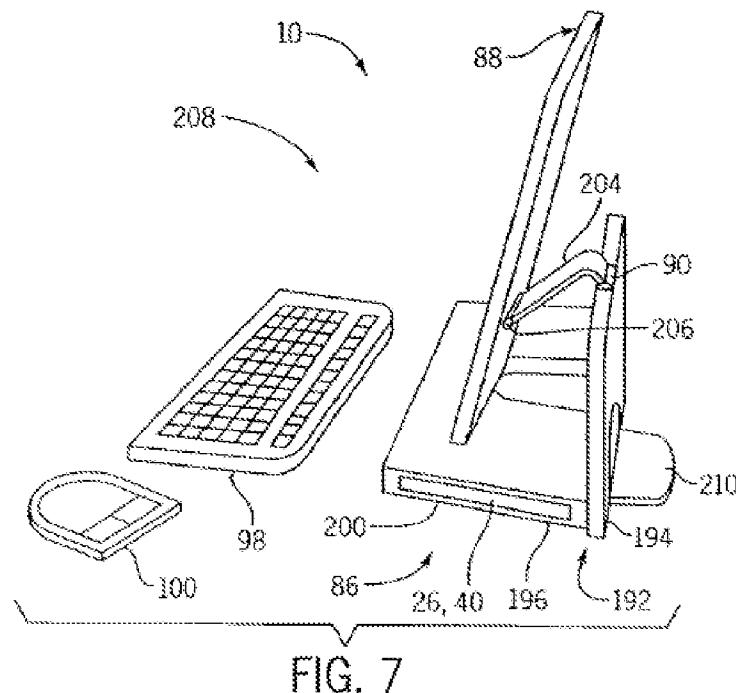


FIG. 7

FIG. 7 of Landry shows a member 204 that connects between a base 194 and a display 88. The member 204 (allegedly the claimed “mounting arm”) does include a curved portion at hinge 90. This curved portion of member 204, however, does not abut the display 88 to horizontally support the display 88.

The Office Action argues that the display 88 in FIG. 7 of Landry could be moved to the right to “allow for both a top surface of the arm, as well as the curved portion of the arm to abut and support the display” (see FOA at p. 4). For several reasons, Applicants respectfully disagree. First, Landry never teaches that hinges 90 and 206 are configured so the display 88 is rotatable to a horizontal position. Second, even assuming *arguendo* that Landry’s display can rotate to a horizontal position, the recitations of the claim are not taught or suggested. Looking to FIG. 7, if the display 88 is rotated to the right, then at best the display will abut the straight portion of member 204. The display 88, however, would not abut the curved portion as this portion is at the hinge 90. Third, Landry never teaches or even suggests that the curved portion of member 204 can abut the display “to horizontally support the display.” Instead, Landry expressly teaches that the hinges 90 and 206 support the display:

As illustrated, the member 204 is rotatably coupled to the base section 194 via the hinge 90 and is rotatably coupled to the display 88 via a hinge 206 opposite the hinge 90. Accordingly, the operational configuration 202 comprises a three-hinge structure, which facilitates a more flexible orientation of the display 88 and the base sections 194 and 196. Thus, the display 88 can be rotated about the hinges 206 and 90 to a desired height and viewing angle for the display screen 92. (Landry at [0033]).

Thus, Landry expressly teaches that hinges (not the curved portion of member 204) support the display 88.

For at least these reasons, claim 8 and its dependent claims are allowable over Landry.

Claim 11

Claim 11 recites “a stop mechanism to limit movement of the mounting arm about the base while the display is in the vertical position.” Landry does not teach or suggest these recitations.

The Office Action admits that Landry does not teach a stop mechanism, but instead argues that such a stop mechanism is inherent from paragraph [0038] in Landry. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Paragraph [0038] in Landry discusses that rotation of the display 88 and member 204 about the base section 194 can be manual or electrically driven. Landry never discusses or even suggests that its base section has a stop mechanism. As stated in MPEP 2112 (no emphasis added), in “relying upon the theory of inherency, the examiner must provide a basis in fact and/or technical reasoning to reasonably support the determination that the allegedly inherent characteristics necessarily flows from the teachings of the applied prior art.”

For at least these additional reasons, dependent claim 11 is allowable over Landry.

Claim 13

Independent claim 13 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Landry. For example, claim 13 recites adjusting the display to a vertical position “such that the display abuts a straight portion of the curved mounting arm.” Nowhere does Landry teach or suggest these recitations. The Office Action cites FIG. 6 of Landry for teaching these recitations. Applicants respectfully disagree and reproduce FIG. 6 of Landry below for convenience:

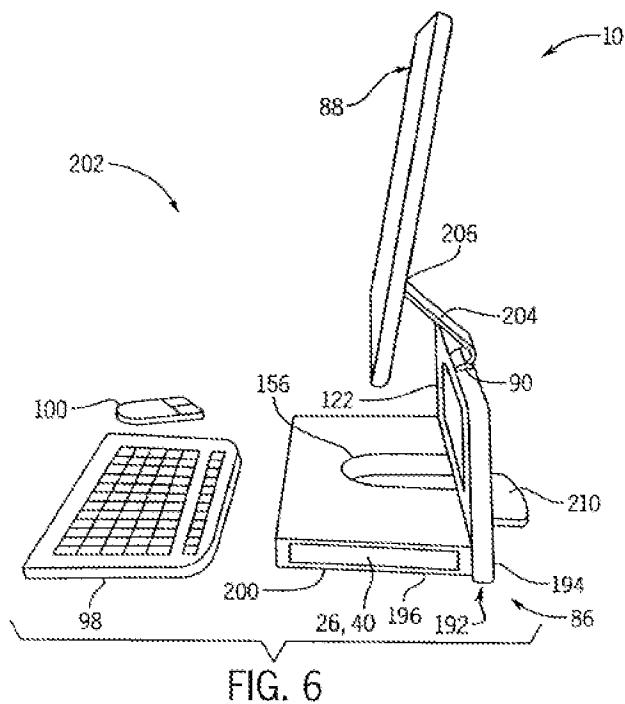


FIG. 6 of Landry shows a member 204 that connects between a base 194 and a display 88. The member 204 (allegedly the claimed “mounting arm”) does include a straight portion that extends outwardly from the display 88. The display 88, however, cannot be adjusted to a vertical position such that “the display abuts a straight portion” of the member 204. As expressly shown in FIG. 6, the display 88 is in a vertical position; yet the straight portion of the member 204 does not abut the display while the display is in a vertical position.

The Office Action argues that the display 88 and member 204 in FIG. 6 of Landry could be moved to “allow for an underside of the straight portion of the arm to abut and support the display in the vertical position” (see FOA at p. 4). For several reasons, Applicants respectfully disagree. First, FIG. 6 of Landry already shows the display in the vertical position, and the straight portion of member 204 does not abut the display. In other words, FIG. 6 of Landry conflicts with the argument of the Examiner. Second, Landry never teaches or even suggests that the display can be adjusted to a vertical position such that the display abuts a straight portion of member 204. Instead, Landry expressly teaches that the hinges 90 and 206 support the display in the vertical position:

As illustrated, the member 204 is rotatably coupled to the base section 194 via the hinge 90 and is rotatably coupled to the display 88 via a hinge 206 opposite the hinge 90. Accordingly, the operational configuration 202 comprises a three-hinge structure, which facilitates a more flexible orientation of the display 88 and the base sections 194 and 196. Thus, the display 88 can be rotated about the hinges 206 and 90 to a desired height and viewing angle for the display screen 92. (Landry at [0033]).

Thus, Landry expressly teaches that hinges (not the straight portion of member 204) vertically support the display 88.

For at least these reasons, claim 13 and its dependent claims are allowable over Landry.

Claim 15

Dependent claim 15 recites adjusting the display to a horizontal position so the display rests on a support surface and “forming triangular contact locations with the display and support surface.” Nowhere does Landry teach or suggest such recitations.

First, Landry does not even show the display in the horizontal position with the display resting on a support surface. Further, Landry never suggests whatsoever that triangular contacts are formed with the display and support surface.

The Office Action merely cites to paragraphs [0034] and [0035] in Landry. Applicants respectfully ask the Board of Appeals to read these two paragraphs. They never state or even suggest “forming triangular contact locations with the display and support surface.”

For at least these additional reasons, claim 15 is allowable over Landry.

Claim 18

Independent claim 18 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Landry. For example, claim 18 recites that when the display is supported off the support surface and above the base, then the display “abuts against a straight portion of the means for connecting.” Nowhere does Landry teach or suggest these recitations.

FIG. 6 in Landry shows the display 88 supported off the support surface and above the base. Notice that the display 88 does not abut the straight section of the mounting arm 204. As shown in Landry, the straight section of the mounting arm is removed or away from the display. Thus, Landry does not teach or suggest when the display is supported off the support surface and above the base, then the display “abuts against a straight portion of the means for connecting.”

For at least these reasons, claim 18 and its dependent claims are allowable over Landry.

Claim 23

Dependent claim 23 recites “adjusting the display to a horizontal position such that the display is supported on the support surface and the curved mounting arm but not the computer base.” Nowhere does Landry teach or suggest such recitations.

First, Landry does not even show the display in the horizontal position. Further, Landry never suggests whatsoever that if the display were rotated to such a horizontal position, then the display would be supported on both the support surface and curved portion of a mounting arm but not the computer base.

The Office Action argues these recitations are taught or suggested in FIG. 7 of Landry and paragraph [0035]. Even assuming *arguendo* that display 88 is rotatable to a

horizontal position on the support surface, nowhere does Landry suggest that the display would be supported on the curved mounting arm but not the computer base.

For at least these additional reasons, claim 23 is allowable over Landry.

II. Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landry. For at least the reasons given above in connection with independent claim 1, dependent claims 2 and 3 are allowable over Landry.

Claim 3

Claim 3 recites that the mounting arm has “an S shape in side view.” Nowhere does Landry teach or suggest this recitation. Applicants respectfully ask the Board of Appeals to review FIG. 6 of Landry.

FIG. 6 shows a side view of member 204. Clearly, the side view of member 204 is not an S shape. Member 204 has a long straight portion with a curve near hinge 90. Member 204 has a hook shape, not an S shape.

For at least these additional reasons, claim 3 is allowable over Landry.

III. Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landry in view of USPN 6,219,681 (Hawkins). As noted above in section I, Landry does not teach or suggest all the elements of independent claim 8. Hawkins fails to cure the deficiencies of Landry. For at least the reasons given above in connection with independent claim 8, dependent claim 12 is allowable over Landry in view of Hawkins.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the Board of Appeals to reverse the Examiner's rejection of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone No. (832) 236-5529. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

Respectfully submitted,

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Ph: 832-236-5529

VIII. Claims Appendix

1. A computing system, comprising:

 a docking station having a base, a carrier separate from the base, and a nonlinear rigid mounting arm mechanically connecting the base to the carrier, wherein the mounting arm has a first end that pivotally connects to the base and a second end that pivotally connects to the carrier;
 an electronic display removably connectable to the carrier; and
 a keyboard in communication with the display, wherein the mounting arm has a curved portion that abuts and supports the display in a horizontal position and a straight portion that abuts and supports the display in a vertical position.

2. The computing system of claim 1 wherein the first end pivots about the base with a first rotational force, the second end pivots about the carrier with a second rotational force, and wherein the first rotation force is greater than the second rotational force.

3. The computing system of claim 1 wherein the mounting arm has an S shape in side view.

4. The computing system of claim 1 wherein the mounting arm is a single integrally formed member.

5. (canceled)

6. The computing system of claim 1 wherein the mounting arm is hollow and electrically couples the base to the display when the display is connected to the carrier.

7. The computing system of claim 1 wherein the display, while connected to the carrier, is movable between at least four different positions comprising a horizontal

landscape position, a horizontal portrait position, an upright landscape position, and an upright portrait position.

8. A portable computer, comprising:

- a base having a central processing unit and memory;
- a display having a screen, wherein the display is movable between a horizontal position with respect to the base and a vertical position with respect to the base; and
- an elongated mounting arm mechanically and electrically coupling the display to the base, wherein the mounting arm has a curved portion that abuts the display to horizontally supports the display and a straight portion that abuts the display to vertically supports the display above a support surface.

9. (canceled)

10. The portable computer of claim 8 wherein the mounting arm rotationally connects at a first end to the base and rotationally connects at a second end to the display.

11. The portable computer of claim 8 wherein the base further comprises a stop mechanism to limit movement of the mounting arm about the base while the display is in the vertical position.

12. The portable computer of claim 8 wherein the display is adapted to function as a notepad while in the horizontal position and a view screen while in the vertical position.

13. A method, comprising:

- providing a computer base housing electronic components;
- providing a computer display housing electronic components;
- mechanically attaching the base to the display with a curved mounting arm;

and

adjusting the display to a vertical position such that the display abuts a straight portion of the curved mounting arm and a center of gravity of the display is between a first pivot point at the base and a second pivot point at the display.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising forming an angle with a front surface of the display relative to a normal axis with the base, the angle being between 10° and 40°.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising:

adjusting the display to a horizontal position so the display rests on a support surface; and

forming triangular contact locations with the display and support surface.

16. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

forming a first contact location in a first corner of the display;

forming a second contact location in a second corner of the display; and

forming a third contact location on the mounting arm.

17. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

forming a first contact location in a first corner of the display;

forming a second contact location in a second corner of the display; and

forming a third contact location on the base.

18. A computing system, comprising:

a docking station comprising a base supportable on a support surface and housing electronic components, a carrier, and means for connecting the base to the carrier;

a display housing electronic components and mechanically connected to the carrier and electrically coupled to the base through the means for connecting; and

wherein the display is supportable off the support surface and above the base such that the display abuts against a straight portion of the means for connecting and a center of gravity of the display is between two different and parallel axes that pass

through two different rotational locations and that are normal to a support surface supporting the base.

19. The computing system of claim 18 wherein the means for connecting provides a curved mechanical connection between the base and the carrier.

20. The computing system of claim 19 wherein the means for connecting also provides a straight mechanical connection for supporting the display.

21. (canceled)

22. The portable computer of claim 8 wherein the display abuts the support surface and the curved portion when the display is being horizontally supported.

23. The method of claim 13 further comprising adjusting the display to a horizontal position such that the display is supported on the support surface and the curved mounting arm but not the computer base.

24. The method of claim 13 further comprising adjusting the display to a horizontal position such that the display is supported on the support surface and the computer base but not the curved mounting arm.

25. The method of claim 13 wherein the display is positioned off a support surface when the display is adjusted to the vertical position such that the center of gravity of the display is between the first pivot point at the base and the second pivot point at the display.

26. The computing system of claim 18 wherein a first rotational location is at one end of the means for connecting and a second rotational location is at an opposite end of the means for connecting.

27. The computing system of claim 18 wherein the means for connecting has a curved portion that abuts the display in a horizontal position.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.

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PATENT APPLICATION
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 200312716-1

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Steven S. Homer, et al.

Confirmation No.: 8243

Application No.: 10/661,717

Examiner: Anthony Q. Edwards

Filing Date: September 12, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2835

Title: Computer with Adjustable Display

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF

Transmitted herewith is the Appeal Brief in this application with respect to the Notice of Appeal filed on July 3, 2006.

The fee for filing this Appeal Brief is (37 CFR 1.17(c)) \$500.00.

(complete (a) or (b) as applicable)

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) apply.

(a) Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 (fees: 37 CFR 1.17(a)-(d)) for the total number of months checked below:

1st Month
\$120

2nd Month
\$450

3rd Month
\$1020

4th Month
\$1590

The extension fee has already been filed in this application.

(b) Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

Please charge to Deposit Account 08-2025 the sum of \$ 500. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
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Date of Deposit:

Respectfully submitted,

Steven S. Homer, et al.

By _____

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Date : August 3, 2006

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OR

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number (571)273-8300.

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